Name: 1F
A.A. code: LQCAEAV (SEQ ID NO: 138)
DNA Sequence: (T/C)TI CA(A/G) TG(T/C GCI GA(A/G) GCN GT
(SEQ ID NO: 137)

Reverse:

C9 cont.

Name: SCR3AII (23-mer, 2 inosines, 128-mix)
A.A. code: PGGPP(H/N/K)(V/L/F)R' (SEQ ID NO: 140)
DNA Sequence: 5' CG/T CCA/C GTG/T TGG IGG ICC NCC NGG 3'
(SEQ ID NO: 139)

Name: 1R
A.A. code: AFQVFNGI (SEQ ID NO: 142)
DNA Sequence: AT ICC (A/G)TT (A/G)AA IAC (C/T)TG (A/G)AA NGC
(SEQ ID NO: 141)
Name: 4R
A.A. code: QWPGLFHI (SEQ ID NO: 144)
DNA Sequence: AT (A/G)TG (A/G)AA IA(A/G) NCC IGG CCA (C/T)TG
(SEQ ID NO: 143)
I = inosine
N = A/C/G/T

Useful primer combinations include the following:
SCR5AII+SCR3AII; SCR5B+SCR3AII; IF+IR; and IF+4R

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-28 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 29-46 as follows:

-- 29 (New). An isolated nucleic acid molecule wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises SEQ ID NO: 95 or the complement thereof.

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30 (New). An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 96.

31 (New). A DNA vector containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30.

32 (New). An expression vector containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30, operatively associated with a regulatory sequence containing transcriptional and translational regulatory elements that control expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell.

33 (New). A genetically-engineered host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30.

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34 (New). A genetically-engineered host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30, operatively associated with a regulatory sequence containing transcriptional and translational regulatory elements that control expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell.

35 (New). A genetically-engineered plant containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30.

36 (New). A plant genetically-engineered to overexpress or underexpress a SCARECROW protein or polypeptide, said protein or polypeptide being encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30, wherein cell division in the plant is modified, and root and/or stem development is altered.

37 (New). A plant genetically-engineered to overexpress a SCARECROW protein or polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 96, so that cell division is increased in roots.

38 (New). A plant genetically-engineered to overexpress or underexpress a SCARECROW protein or polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 96, wherein the gravitropism of the stem or hypocotyl is altered.

39 (New). The plant of claim 38 that is less susceptible to lodging than a wild-type plant.

40 (New). A transgenic plant containing a transgene comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 29 or 30.

41 (New). The transgenic plant of claim 40 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operatively associated with a regulatory sequence containing transcriptional and translational regulatory elements that control expression of the nucleic acid in a transgenic plant cell.

42 (New). The transgenic plant of claim 40, wherein the transgene encodes an antisense nucleotide sequence that suppresses expression of an endogenous *SCARECROW* protein or polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 96, so that cell division is decreased in roots, resulting in thinner root development.

43 (New). The transgenic plant of claim 40, wherein the transgene encodes a ribozyme complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding an endogenous *SCARECROW* protein or polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 96, so that cell division is decreased in roots, resulting in thinner root development.

44 (New). A method for expressing a nucleic acid that encodes a SCARECROW protein or polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 96 in a host cell, comprising:

(a) culturing the genetically-engineered host cell of claim 33 or 34; and

(b) inducing the transcriptional and translational regulatory elements that control expression of the nucleic acid.